

# Asquith Cabinet Plans Conscription for "Slackers"

## T. M. OSBORNE INDICTED; WILL BE REMOVED

Seven Counts in True  
Bills Returned by  
the Grand Jury.

## IMMORALITY IS ONE CHARGE

"I Have No Fear of Re-  
sult," Warden Declares;  
"It Is People's Fight."

Thomas Mott Osborne, warden of Sing Sing, was indicted in charges of perjury and neglect of duty by the Westchester Grand Jury yesterday afternoon. The two indictments returned contain seven counts. One of the counts charging neglect alleges personal immorality with a number of prisoners. On the question of indicting the warden the grand jury stood 14 to 6, the affirmative having two more votes than the number needed.

State Superintendent of Prisons Riley announced last night that he would remove Osborne from office as soon as he could find a successor.

The charges in the neglect indictment against Osborne are:

That he absented himself from the prison, in being on duty there but four days a week.

That he was negligent in performing his duties so that there were assaults within the prison.

That he neglected to report such assaults.

That at least four persons were permitted to visit the death house in violation of law, when Charles Becker was there confined. In this count the persons named are Joseph Rocchi, Thomas J. (Pat) Alger, Joseph Murphy and Samuel trook.

Immorality Is Charged.

That he allowed certain unfit inmates of Sing Sing to control the discipline of the prison, its management and its policies.

That he failed to properly protect the convicts under his control and permitted lax discipline generally.

That he personally was guilty of gross immorality with Max Kleinberg, Henry Delano, Sidney Walsh and others.

The perjury indictment charges that one month after a conviction had been secured, he caused the grand jury to be sworn before Dr. Diederich that there was no immorality in the prison.

When these indictments were handed up to Justice Morehouse, Andrew Buchanan, foreman of the jury, asked that it be permitted to adjourn to January 11, as it expected there might be other matters it would like to consider. The request was granted.

Warden Osborne first learned of the finding of the indictments late in the afternoon in the prison when he was talking with a friend over the probable effect of the grand jury. He had refused to hear other Osborne witnesses.

"I have reasons to think it has decided to indict," he said.

At that moment he was told of the indictment and that the District Attorney's office would not ask for a warrant if he would agree to be in court to-morrow morning. The warden declined the offer, and later, after a conference with counsel, arranged to be in court at 10 o'clock this morning with bondsmen. These will be of the most prominent residents in Westchester County, many of whom telephoned to the prison last evening offering any aid they might be able to render.

Gloom at Sing Sing.

The immediate effect of the news from White Plains at the prison was to cast a gloom over the institution, for news of the outside world that in any way affects the prison travels fast within its walls. This time the prison without was unusually speedy, and it was a dependent crowd of prisoners that went to their cells after the day's work was done.

To counteract this the warden ordered that the men be assembled in the mess hall after supper, and just before 7 o'clock they began filing in from the cell blocks. It was a saddened crowd. Just what was to follow none seemed to know and not a few of the men were crying.

When the warden made his appearance he received a rousing cheer.

"I have just received one of the greatest honors of my career," he began. "I have just heard that I have been indicted by the Westchester Grand Jury. I presume you will all congratulate me."

"You will laugh this sally had raised a sobbed he went on:

"I am warden of Sing Sing, and I will be warden of Sing Sing until they kick me out."

It was the first intimation the men had that the indictment had not served to remove him automatically, and it was several minutes before the cheers subsided.

Will Meet the Charges.

"I have not the slightest discrimination to meet the charges. I will be on hand whenever they are ready to try them. My only fear is that they will not be ready soon enough."

The immediate effect of the indictments would be to make friends for the warden's movement.

"You will have more friends to-morrow," said he, "than you have to-day, and you will have more in the days that will follow. The only persons who injure the movement are your-

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## GREEK SHIP AGAIN IN PERIL

Seneca Rushes to Answer Distress Call of Thessaloniki.

A report was received from Sandy Hook early this morning that the coast guard cutter Seneca had gone to the assistance of the Greek steamship Thessaloniki, which is again reported in distress.

When the Thessaloniki was 700 miles east of Sandy Hook Wednesday she sent a wireless message for help. She was answered by the Stampalia, which stood by during Wednesday night. By Thursday morning she signalled that the water which had flooded the boiler and engine rooms had been pumped out. She then started for this port.

## TOM SHEVLIN, YALE COACH, NEAR DEATH

Contracts Pneumonia After Illness Caused by Football Work.

St. Paul, Dec. 28.—Thomas L. Shevlin, millionaire lumberman and Yale football coach, was near death to-night from pneumonia following an illness brought on by his coaching of the Yale team last fall. Dr. B. W. Sippy, of Chicago, made a sensational dash from Chicago to St. Paul in eight hours on a special train to reach the bedside of the sick man.

"Mr. Shevlin has a chance of recovery," said H. C. Clark, business partner of Shevlin, to-night. "The illness assumed serious proportions last Thursday, and since then Shevlin has been declining."

## CHORUS GIRLS DRAW SMILES FROM THAW

Harry K. Back on Broadway. Recognized at Winter Garden.—Squirms from Publicity.

Mute as the oysters he ate for dinner, while hiding from the reporters behind a pillar in the Rose Room of the Waldorf, Harry K. Thaw, late of Matamoras, Pittsburgh and San Francisco, spent yesterday in New York. It is to be gathered that part of his time was spent in transacting some indefinite business, of which he would not speak.

The major part of it, however, was used in telling newspaper men that he had nothing to say, and in viewing "A World of Pleasure" at the Winter Garden, where he passed unnoticed by a dozen of the chorus girls. They smiled at him. He smiled back. Then, to prove that he had really reformed, Thaw went out between acts and drank an ice cream soda with his secretary, H. J. Wright.

Shortly after midnight, Jack Francis, Thaw's confidential correspondent by Thaw in his recent suit for divorce, telephoned The Tribune that Thaw had arrived a few minutes before at the Zigzag Hotel on the New Amsterdam Hotel.

"He's wearing a dinner coat and looks good. He and the man with him, who I understand is his secretary, are making the rounds of the press and displaying the 'Thaw' menu card," the Broadway free lance continued.

For some unknown reason, newspaper publicity was distasteful to Thaw yesterday. His former cordiality toward representatives of the press had disappeared. He showed a desire to bite the hands that spread him all over the front page in years gone by.

So great was his wrath when he was discovered dining behind the Rose Room pillar, that he stormed out to the management to complain. This he did at 11 p.m.

"I have nothing to say," and "Ask Willie" were the only words asked him. He did condescend to announce that by "Willie" he meant William Thaw, the French aviator and his cousin, who is now here on furlough.

While Thaw would not say how long he will stay over to-day, he employed the greatest secrecy in coming to New York, and registered his secretary's name instead of his own at the Waldorf.

## NEW YORK 250,000 BIGGER THAN LONDON

War and Census Correction Put English City in Second Place.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

London, Dec. 28.—New York is the largest city in the world. London, by reason of losses occasioned by the war and because of gigantic error in estimating the population, must now admit that the American metropolis is the bigger by about a quarter of a million people.

The figures show, among other things, an astonishing blunder. The census revealed that there were actually some 4,500,000 within the County of London, which means London proper, but the London County Council and other local authorities had been estimating that the population was 3,900,000 more, and accordingly, all statistics as to births and deaths have been inaccurate.

The exact number of people in the County of London, according to these 1911 figures, is 4,521,358, whereas New York City in 1910 numbered 4,765,883. Counting in "extra London," as it is termed, that is, London outside the County, the population of the erstwhile metropolis of the world is 7,251,358.

Counting the Westchester and New Jersey suburbs, was at the last census 7,383,871.

Considering, however, that the latter count was made in 1914—three years later than London's most recent enumeration—the probability is that the biggest cities of the old and new world are now just about neck and neck.

FLORIDA'S "EAST COAST" RESORTS. REMOVED BY N.Y. & FLORIDA SPECIAL. Atlantic Coast Line, 2-12 P.M., effective Jan. 1. Other trains Daily. 11 way & 29th St. Adv.

## CONGRESSMAN AND 7 OTHERS ARE INDICTED

Buchanan, of Illinois, Held as Arms Strike Conspirator.

## LAMAR BILKED RINTELEN, ISTALE

\$475,000 of Kaiser's Cash Went Before German Propagandist Waked Up.

Frank Buchanan, Representative from Illinois; H. Robert Fowler, former member of Congress from the same state, and Frank S. Monnett, ex-Attorney General of Ohio, were indicted yesterday along with Frans Rintelen, German plot fiscal agent, and David Lamar, "the Wolf of Wall Street," on a charge of conspiring to break up the munition industries of this country. The list of indicted men was swelled to eight by the naming in the same bill of Jacob C. Taylor, of East Orange, president of Labor's National Peace Council, and Henry B. Martin and Herman Schulteis, members of the council.

So far it sounds like a ponderously serious story. But back of these indictments is a comic tale of how these apparently serious-minded men, some of them American citizens who have been chosen to high office, were led to engage in fantastically quixotic schemes that came from the fertile brain of Lamar. They were put forth by him as a practical way of helping Germany beat the Allies by shutting off their powder and shot supplies from the United States.

The biggest laugh in the comedy seems to be on Rintelen, trusted confidant of the Kaiser, who hopelessly brought \$500,000 of his sovereign's money to this country and trustingly disbursed it through Lamar in the belief that it was doing wonders for the Fatherland. His faith continued unshaken until Lamar had spent all but \$25,000 of the Kaiser's half million. Then Rintelen awoke to two ideas at once. One was that the munition business was singing along as merrily as before Lamar got a dollar from him.

Lamar Gets \$50,000.

The second idea that struck Rintelen was that it was getting past time for him to make a getaway from the United States. His flight was not a lucky one, for he fell into the hands of the British, and is now held by them in the Tower of London, as a prisoner of war. He would much rather be in the United States as a prisoner in the Tombs waiting trial for a conspiracy that could at most cost him a year in jail and \$5,000 fine.

Labor's National Peace Council is the name under which the funny part of the story was done. Rintelen reached this object of landing a knockout on the munition business. He fell in with David Lamar, whose imagination began to work at once.

Lamar had his Anti-Trust League all hand-made and nothing was easier than to form, with the facilities at hand, Labor's National Peace Council. Through propaganda nothing would be simpler than to have all labor engaged in making munitions for the Allies walk out and refuse to do it any longer. Steel mills would flag in their work, shipping would be tied up by "longshoremen strikes," labor union leaders could be bribed to call strikes, and, in short—according to the rosy plans Lamar drew—it would not be many weeks before not another shell was being turned out in this country for the Allies.

"About \$50,000 would do as a start," was Lamar's suggestion. A little while after that Lamar met Rintelen, with a bunch of newspaper clippings in his hands, and jubilation in his voice. The clippings told about the Bridgeport ammunition factory strikes.

Then \$150,000, and More.

"Results!" Lamar cried, and suggested that to get a lot more similar results \$150,000 would be just the thing. He got the money. A while afterward he came with more clippings, more jubilation and more "results." The clippings this time told about strikes at Schenectady; and Rintelen wrote another fat check.

This is part of the story as told yesterday by a representative of United States Attorney H. Snowden Marshall's office. "We have only begun our investigation of Labor's National Peace Council," he said. "Although there were a lot of other wild-eyed peace and German enthusiasts connected with it, we have confined the indictments to the men who know about the genesis, rise and death of the council."

"As a matter of fact, hardly anything was actually accomplished by the plotters, although Lamar convinced Rintelen that wonders were done. A few small strikes were called by understrappers in labor organizations, but when the big leaders heard of them they investigated, found there was funny business somewhere, and ordered the men

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## ROTTERDAM'S TRIO OF DIPLOMATS.



At right, Captain Boy-Ed, recalled German naval attaché. At left, above, Colonel E. M. House. Below, Brand Whitlock, Minister to Belgium.

## IDA VON CLAUSSEN BOY-ED AT SEA, A RUNAWAY BRIDE SO IS COL. HOUSE

Bamboozles Nurse, Hides "Von" to Wed Man Who Wooded at Madhouse.

Mrs. Ida von Clausen, thrice released from an insane asylum, the last time on condition that she should never appear on New York streets unattended, eluded her nurse yesterday and married Francis Albert Dona. Dona said he is an architect, and gave his address as 1134 East Street, Philadelphia. That is fictitious, as it is the rear of the Reading terminal. It is believed the couple have left the state. A general alarm has been sent out for the arrest of Mrs. Dona for violating her parole from the Middletown State Hospital.

Mrs. von Clausen was released from the hospital last Friday in the custody of her brother-in-law, Matthew B. Clausen, of 350 West Eighty-fifth Street, on the ground that she was not dangerous to the public. Clausen was to see that she did not write any more threatening or abusive letters. He hired a nurse to watch her day and night in his own home.

Yesterday morning Mrs. von Clausen and the nurse went out, ostensibly on a shopping trip. About an hour later Clausen got a telephone message from the nurse. She said she was in Brooklyn with Mrs. von Clausen, who was in search of a marriage license. The nurse said Mrs. von Clausen told her that she was going to White Plains in the afternoon with Clausen to get Justice Tompkins's permission for a marriage ceremony. Clausen told the nurse to "humor" her along, but to get her home as soon as possible.

Married by Minister.

The next thing Clausen knew the maid called him up and in horri-fied tones said she believed that Mrs. von Clausen had been married in the parsonage of the Washington Heights Episcopal Church, Amsterdam Avenue and 153d Street, by the Rev. Dr. Jacob E. Price. She was right.

According to Dr. Price, he performed a marriage ceremony at noon yesterday for a "Miss Marie Byrnes Clausen."

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## WILL PRESENT BILL GRANTING RIGHT TO ACT

Premier to Outline Measure to House Next Week.

## RESIGNATIONS MAY BE RESULT

Strong Influences To Be Exerted to Prevent Fall of Cabinet.

London, Dec. 29.—Yesterday's Cabinet meeting, although it failed to secure an agreement of all the ministers on the vexed question of the voluntary system versus conscription, was of a very critical and decisive character, and virtually reached the decision that the application of force may become necessary before all eligible single men are brought to the colors.

It was resolved, therefore, that at the earliest opportunity a bill should be introduced in Parliament that the government might have the necessary power, should it be found that no other course was effective to this end.

Premier Asquith is expected to make a statement on the whole question in the House of Commons on Wednesday or Thursday of next week and announce the speedy introduction of a bill of a permissive character, making service in the army obligatory on unmarried men who have failed to attest under the Derby scheme.

The anti-conscriptionist ministers offered strong opposition, and it is still unknown whether any resignations will follow.

## Line of Policy Adopted.

The line of policy on which a majority of the ministers agree—indicating that some, at least, of the anti-conscriptionist section of the Cabinet so far waived their principle as to consent to a modified application of force—is as follows:

First, that the Premier's pledge to married men is binding on the whole government.

Second, that the pledge should be redeemed forthwith.

Third, that the principle of conscription should be accepted.

Fourth, that the Premier should announce this policy at the earliest opportunity after the reassembling of Parliament.

It is believed that the actual formal resolution on the new policy has been postponed until another meeting of the Cabinet, on Thursday, and that in the short interval Mr. Asquith will be employed in asserting the strongest influences to avert disruption of his Cabinet. It is still quite possible that a crisis may be avoided.

Reginald McKenna, Chancellor of the Exchequer; Walter Runciman, President of the Board of Trade, and the Labor Minister, Arthur Henderson, are regarded as the most likely to resign.

Other known opponents of conscription are Louis Harcourt, Sir John A. Simon, Thomas McKinnon Wood and Sir Stanley O. Buckmaster. The fact that Premier Asquith has been able to make the momentous announcement that, in his opinion, the time had arrived when steps should be taken to prepare for such a great effect on the most determined of the supporters of the voluntary plan that it is believed there will be, at the most, only a few resignations.

In the House of Commons the bill is almost certain to meet a decided opposition from the Irish and Labor members. The Irish opposition is so passionate that there are even rumors that Ireland will be deliberately excluded from the operations of the contemplated bill. The Labor party, while distinctly anti-conscriptionist, so far has not actually bound its representatives in Parliament and in the Cabinet on the question, and although Arthur Henderson and two other Labor ninjas—William Bruce and George Roberts—regard themselves as committed definitely to the voluntary policy, the attitude of the party may undergo a modification in view of the opinion that the Premier is supporting the military authorities and that the circumstances make conscription urgent.

Much will depend on the effect of the Premier's exposition of the situation and the revelation of Lord Derby's recurring figures next week, until when no resignations are likely to be presented.

It is understood that all proposals to give the Derby scheme another trial for a fortnight were firmly opposed by Lord Derby on the ground that it would only postpone, not solve, the problem. In this view Lord Derby was supported by the Premier. Moreover, information has been given to the Cabinet at its last two meetings that single men failing to respond in sufficient numbers had much to do with what must be regarded as the conversion of the Cabinet to the compulsory policy.

The same reasons induced the acqui-

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## JAPANESE STEAMERS ABANDON SUEZ ROUTE

Tokio, Dec. 28.—On account of the war dangers to vessels which pass through the Suez Canal and the Mediterranean, the Japan Mail Steamship Company, which controls the bulk of the shipping of this country, has decided to abandon the customary route and dispatch its steamships around the Cape of Good Hope from Colombo, Ceylon. The voyage to England will be lengthened a fortnight. Vessels from Europe to the Orient will follow the same course.

From Colombo the Japan Mail liners will proceed to Durban, Cape Town, Madeira and London. The new service will be inaugurated by the Kamo Maru, which is to sail from Colombo on December 30. Several vessels of this line are at Mediterranean ports, awaiting orders.

The Japanese cruisers Tokiwa and Chitose are to sail to-morrow from Yokosuka on a secret mission. It is believed they will go to the South Seas.

## HEAR MACKENSEN WILL LEAD ARMY AGAINST EGYPT

Paris Reports Estimate Forces from 500,000 to 800,000.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

London, Dec. 28.—Close after the news that 40,000 Indian troops have been shifted by Britain from France to "another field of operations" come renewed reports that Germany is making active preparations for an invasion of Egypt.

Field Marshal von Mackensen is directing preparations for the drive against the Suez Canal, says a Havas dispatch from Rome, quoting Bucharest advices. Dispatches to the "Messagero" from the Rumanian capital add that trains loaded with munitions have been sent to Turkey for use in the Egyptian campaign. One of these trains, it is said, consisted of twenty-five flat cars laden with the parts of two 16-inch mortars and shells for their use.

Reports that Germany is preparing to move against the Suez Canal and Egypt with a mix of forces of Turks, Germans and Austrians are current in Paris. Some of the reports go into various details, it being said, for instance, that the army is likely to consist of from 500,000 to 800,000 men, and that a four-track railway is being built across the half desert region toward Suez.

## U-Boats Check Aid.

The increased activity of Austrian submarines in the Mediterranean is interpreted in part as an effort to keep British aid from Africa. So great has this menace become that Japanese vessels which have used the Mediterranean-Suez route will now be sent around the Cape of Good Hope. This, too, argues that an invasion of Egypt is considered possible in Japan.

The battle at Mareth, in which Senussi tribesmen are engaged, is still in progress. A Reuter dispatch from Cairo says that on Christmas Day three thousand tribesmen were driven back, leaving two hundred dead on the field, and that effective support was given the British force by gunfire from the ships.

From Berlin reports of an uprising in India continue to come. These have all been denied by the India office. Increased strength to this denial is lent by dispatches from Bombay, dated yesterday and received here to-day. These dispatches say:

"Ten thousand delegates, representing all communities, were present to-day at the opening of the annual India National Congress, which was notable for the loyal and patriotic utterances of the speakers."

"Millions in India are waiting to serve," was the keynote of the opening speeches. In the presidential address Sir Satyendra Sinha said the supreme feeling in the struggle for liberty and freedom and pride that India had proved herself not a whit behind the rest of the empire in the assistance given the mother country."

"Continuing, Sir Satyendra expressed the hope that the spontaneous outburst of loyalty had dispelled forever all distrust and suspicion between the Indians and their rulers." The speaker admitted that the time had not arrived for self-government in India, but he

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## HOLLWEG WILL SOON NAME PEACE TERMS, IS REPORT

Geneva, Dec. 28.—A dispatch to the "Tribune" from Vienna says: "Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg is expected in Vienna shortly with the full conditions under which the Central Powers will accept peace. After discussing the terms with Baron von Burin, the Austrian Foreign Minister, the conditions will be officially communicated to the Allies, Germany suggesting that the first conference be held at The Hague."

This government did not ask for assurances in either of its notes to Austria, although if Vienna should give the disavowal demanded, that would automatically provide assurances, being an admission that her policy had been wrong. Assurances would have given protection to Americans while further discussion was in progress and many had believed that this government would not force a break in those circumstances.

The reported success of the Austrian policy is believed to remove this pos-

## U-BOAT POWER LEADS AUSTRIA TOWARD BREAK

Successes in Raids Mean Refusal of U. S. Demands.

## RUPTURE SURE, IS PARIS REPORT

Vienna Prefers Blocking of Suez to Friendship of America.

(From The Tribune Bureau.)

Washington, Dec. 28.—The news that the Austrian submarine campaign in the Mediterranean had been so effective as to lead to the partial abandonment of the Suez route removed about the last hope held by officials here that any considerable concession—such as could prevent a break—would be made in Austria's reply to the Ancona note. That reply is expected daily, but no official forecast has given the State Department officials an inkling of its tenor. Such dispatches as have been received from Ambassador Penfield, officials state, "cannot be called forecasts." They are being kept secret.

Unofficial advices received here to-day conformed with intimations from abroad that Austria's reply would fail to meet the demands of the United States, and Tautonic diplomatic circles here were authoritatively represented as being prepared for a break in diplomatic relations between the two countries.

The one concession which it has been thought likely Austria would offer was an assurance as to the future conduct of her submarines, like that which Germany gave following the Arabic case. If her campaign has been so effective as to make the Suez route too dangerous for passenger ships, it is conceded that there is little chance it will be abandoned at the behest of this country.

Break Brought Nearer.

In view of this situation the expectation of a break has increased in official circles. The determination of this government not to recede from its position remains unchanged, and if, as expected, Austria merely makes slight concessions, clothed in friendly language 'n an effort to shift the blame to America, a severance of relations is regarded as inevitable.

Safety for Americans, it is realized, cannot be gained by further discussion so long as Austria continues her present lawless policy and little will be achieved even if she gives assurances. The course of events since the famous Arabic pledge shows that such a promise would have to be won from each belligerent in turn, and as Austria is now doing the work Germany promised not to do, so after an Austrian promise the purposes of the alliance might be served as well if the submarines flew the Turkish or even the Bulgarian flag.

Any offer of arbitration, therefore, which would continue negotiations without even a promise of safety to Americans in the meantime, would not be accepted by this government, officials admit. It is understood that Ambassador Penfield has reported a tentative offer from Austria along this line, and that he has been instructed to reply that any such offer would be a mere waste of time.

## Disavoval Impossible.

There has been little hope from the first that Austria would give complete compliance to the American demands. Austrians and Germans have insisted all along that a disavowal would be impossible. The demand for the punishment of the submarine's commander, of course, could be easily evaded by reporting, as was done at first in the Arabic case, that he was missing.

There remained the demand for reparation, and that Austria probably would meet as Germany had done—with a promise and an offer of arbitration of other means of arriving at the sum to be paid. An answer embracing these points, it was realized, would not satisfy this country, but the chance remained that there would be an offer of assurance that would make it possible to continue negotiations.

This government did not ask for assurances in either of its notes to Austria, although if Vienna should give the disavowal demanded, that would automatically provide assurances, being an admission that her policy had been wrong. Assurances would have given protection to Americans while further discussion was in progress and many had believed that this government would not force a break in those circumstances.

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### Business in Russia

Mary Isabel Brush, in next Sunday's Tribune, writes a most amusing description of the Russian way of transacting business—and how the unversed American fares with people who arrive at last, but who move in spirals.

Incidentally, to the business man contemplating an invasion of Russia there is no end of helpful hints on the way to get things accomplished. Tell your news-dealer that you particularly want next Sunday's issue. Tell him to-day.

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